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Dated: May 12, 2004

Signature: Matthias Abrell

(Matthias Abrell)

Attorney Docket No.: 29939/38936A  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Schneider et al.

Application No.: 10/726,057

Filed: December 2, 2003

Art Unit: 3643

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD TO INFORM OF  
OPTIMAL PET BRUSHING CRITERIA AND  
PACKAGING USING THE SAME

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

Applicants have become aware of the following documents, cited in an International Search Report issued May 6, 2004, 2004, during the prosecution of international Application No. PCT/US03/38362, which corresponds to the above-referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and (e)(1) or (b)(3), hereby submit these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed PTO Form SB/08, and a copy of the International Search Report and each document cited thereon are enclosed as well.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Applicants believe that no fee is due at this time. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 29939/38936A. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: May 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By



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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/726,057
				Filing Date	December 2, 2003
				Inventors	Schneider et al.
				Art Unit	3643
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	29939/38936A

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	English-language translation
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		FR-255031	05-24-1985	Kouklja	No

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		Safari By Coastal, "Bristle Brush Package", 1197, Coastal, Alliance, Ohio, US, 1 page.	
		Safari Pet Products, "Dog Brochure", 1997, Safari Pet Products, 4 pages.	
		Copy of International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/39362, dated May 6, 2004, 7 pages.	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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